(iii) Export of all Wildlife products for commercial purposes has been banned.

(iv) A new scheme entitled, "Eco-development of Areas In and Around National Parks and Sanctuaries" has been launched to achieve sustainable development and improvement on the quality of life of the local people. Other centrally sponsored schemes for afforestation and nature conservation also provide new avenues of employment to local people.

Drive to control auto emission suffers setback

2879. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times dated 15th July, 1992 under the caption "Drive to control auto emission suffers a setback";

(b) if so, what is Government reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that no tangible and substantial results would be achieved by the year 2000 in this regard;

(d) what steps are being taken to reduce auto emissions; and

(e) whether Government propose to revise targets downwards in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Policy Statement for the abatement of pollution states that progressively stricter vehicular emission standards will be evolved to deal with environmental hazards caused by vehicular traffic.

(c) **No, Sir.**

(d) Several steps have been taken to control vehicular pollution which will have an impact in reducing emissions. These include the following:

1. Gross emission standards for all types of on-the-road vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and these have come into force from March 1, 1990.

2.The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce the gross emission standards.

3. Every manufacturer of motor vehicles is required to submit the prototype of the vehicle manufactured for test by an agency specified by the Government, and give a certificate of conformity of production and the compliance of the provisions of the Rules including emission standards. This provision has come into force from April 1, 1991.

4. The mass emission standards for vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The standards for petrol driven vehicles have come into force from April, 1991; and the standards for diesel driven vehicles have come into force from April 1, 1992.

5. The petroleum industry has been asked to bring down the lead content in petrol to 0.15 grms/ litre by 1993.

6. The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur is engaged in developing an indisgenous catalytic convertor for controlling exhaust emission for on the road vehicles.

7. Public awareness campaigns about vehicular pollution have been launched.

(e) Progressively stricter vehicular emission standards will be evolved to deal with automobile pollution.